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ACTION: NONE INFO: AFSMETS, CIC/OSB, DCEA/SEA, DONOVA, FBISG,
IMS/EIBFIO, IRU, MDSX, NIO/ECON, ODPB, ODPD, ODPS, OPCTR/OSE, SAS/PRB,
STATDICT, FILE, CETF/R, CETF/R/AOL, CETF/W-2, CIC/FIOB, CIC/SOV,
EA/ICOGPOW, EA/TB, NHTC/CIS, NIO/USSR, SAS/IL (12/W)

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP-PW/MIA// IMMEDIATE
RUEADWD/DA WASHDC//DAPE-ZX// IMMEDIATE
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC//EAP-KOR/ISCA// IMMEDIATE 3449
RUEAHOF/CDRPERSCOM ALEX VA//TAPC-PEZ//
RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC//DOF-4/POW/COS//
INFO RUHFSK/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE 0145
RUHOFHOF/CDR JTFFA HONOLULU HI
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC//OCJCS-PW/MIA/J5//
RUDMMIC/NAVMARINTCEN WASHDC
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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 020386

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODSEXEMPTION 3B2D
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008

DEPT FOR EUR/ISCA, EAP, EUR/NE, NA, AND PA

FOR COORDINATION WITH State

DA PASS TO RUSSIA POW TEAM

E.O. 12356:DECL:OADR
TAGS: MOPS, PREL, PHUM, RS, US
COMBINE: COMPLETE

RAOUL WALLENBERG

SUBJECT: RAOUL WALLENBERG: FORMER SOVIET PRISONER
CLAIMS TO HAVE MET WALLENBERG IN 1947

) 201-0005925

REF 91MOSCOW30844

1. (CONFIDENTIAL -- ENTIRE TEXT)

DOC. MICRO. SER.

2. SUMMARY: THE TDY POW/MIA TEAM IN MOSCOW HAS MET WITH
A FORMER SOVIET POLITICAL PRISONER WHO CLAIMS TO HAVE MET
IMPRISONED SWEDISH DIPLOMAT RAOUL WALLENBERG IN A SOVIET
LABOR CAMP APRIL-JUNE, 1947. THIS PERSON ALSO CLAIMS
THAT WALLENBERG AND A 'SUSPICIOUSLY WELL DRESSED
STRANGER' ESCAPED FROM THE CAMP IN JULY 1947, AFTER WHICH
SHE NEVER SAW WALLENBERG AGAIN. WE WILL PASS THIS
INFORMATION ON TO THE SWEDISH EMBASSY HERE NEXT WEEK, AND
WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/GUIDANCE
DEPT HAS PRIOR TO A JULY 16 FOLLOW-ON MEETING WITH THE
SOURCE. END SUMMARY.

MAR 31 1995

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3. ON FRIDAY, 920710, THE POW/MIA TEAM CONDUCTED AN
INTERVIEW WITH VALENTINA GRIGOR'YEVNA PAVLENKO, WHOSE
MAIDEN NAME WAS IYEVLEVA. SHE HAD CONTACTED THE TEAM IN
RESPONSE TO RECENT PUBLICITY IN THE RUSSIAN PRESS ABOUT
THE POW/MIA ISSUE. WHEN SHE PHONED TO ARRANGE FOR AN
INTERVIEW SHE SAID SHE HAD INFORMATION ABOUT PECHORA.
SINCE THAT IS WHERE DAVID MARKIN IS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN
HELD, THE TEAM WAS QUITE INTERESTED IN MEETING WITH HER.
HOWEVER, HER STORY TURNED OUT QUITE DIFFERENTLY, ALTHOUGH
PERHAPS JUST AS INTERESTING. ALTHOUGH SHE WAS NOT AT THE
SAME CAMP AS DAVID MARKIN, SHE CLAIMS TO HAVE PERSONAL
KNOWLEDGE OF THE FATE OF RAOUL WALLENBERG.

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3. MRS PAVLENKO SAID THAT AS A YOUNG GIRL LIVING IN ARKHANGEL'SK, SHE FREQUENTED THE SEAMEN'S CLUB AND MET MANY AMERICANS IN THE YEARS 1941-1945. IN 1944 SHE BECAME PREGNANT AS A RESULT OF A RELATIONSHIP WITH AN AMERICAN SEAMAN. SHE HAD A DAUGHTER IN FEBRUARY 1945. IN 1946, AFTER THE END OF THE WAR, SHE WAS SENT TO THE GULAG AS AN AMERICAN SPY, UNDER ARTICLE 58, PART 2 OF THE CRIMINAL CODE - ESPIONAGE, BECAUSE OF HER RELATIONSHIPS WITH AMERICANS. HER DAUGHTER WAS SENT TO AN ORPHANAGE. SHE RECLAIMED HER DAUGHTER WHEN SHE WAS RELEASED FROM PRISON SIX YEARS LATER. THE CAMP SHE WAS ASSIGNED TO WAS IN THE PECHORA AREA, BUT FARTHER NORTH AND WEST THAN PECHORA 350/5 OF DAVID MARKIN FAME. HER CAMP WAS CALLED THE NORTHERN PECHORA RAILWAY STATION KOZYA. IN CAMP SHE WAS KNOWN AS 'THE AMERICAN' BECAUSE OF HER BACKGROUND, AND BECAUSE SHE COULD SPEAK RUDIMENTARY ENGLISH. THERE WERE MANY FOREIGN PRISONERS AT THE CAMP, INCLUDING SWEDES, FINNS, ENGLISHMEN AND TWO AMERICANS. SHE NEVER GOT TO MEET THE AMERICANS, AND KNEW NOTHING ABOUT THEM EXCEPT THAT THEY EXISTED.

4. THERE WERE BOTH MALE AND FEMALE PRISONERS AT THE CAMP, MOST OF THEM WORKING AT A BRICK FACTORY. THE SEXES WERE KEPT IN SEPARATE PARTS OF THE CAMP, DIVIDED BY BARBED WIRE FENCES. HOWEVER, THE HOSPITAL TREATED BOTH MALE AND FEMALE PRISONERS. IT WAS THERE IN 1947 THAT SHE MET ANOTHER PRISONER WHO INTRODUCED HIMSELF AS A SWEDISH DIPLOMAT NAMED RAOUL WALLENBERG. THEY WERE SOON ON A FIRST NAME BASIS, WITH HIM CALLING HER 'AMERICAN' AND SHE CALLING HIM RAOUL. BECAUSE SHE SPOKE RUDIMENTARY ENGLISH, AND BECAUSE HIS RUSSIAN WAS SO BAD, THEY COMMUNICATED IN ENGLISH. HOWEVER, THEY ONLY TALKED ABOUT EVERYDAY THINGS, BECAUSE OF THE LANGUAGE LIMITATIONS. HE SAID UPON MEETING HER "YOU'RE SO YOUNG TO BE AN AMERICAN SPY! WHAT DID YOU SPY ON?" HIS NAME MEANT NOTHING TO HER, AND IT WAS NOT UNTIL 1991 WHEN SHE SAW A STORY ABOUT HIM IN THE NEWSPAPER 'MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI, ALONG WITH A PICTURE OF HIM, THAT SHE REALIZED WHO HE ACTUALLY WAS. WALLENBERG SAID HE HAD COME TO THE CAMP FROM LUBYANKA. AFTER BEING RELEASED FROM THE HOSPITAL, MRS PAVLENKO AND WALLENBERG WORKED TOGETHER AT THE BRICK FACTORY. WALLENBERG WAS AT THE CAMP IN APRIL, MAY AND JUNE 1947.

5. TOWARD THE END OF WALLENBERG'S STAY IN THE CAMP, A SUSPICIOUSLY WELL-DRESSED RUSSIAN ARRIVED IN THE CAMP AND SPENT ALL HIS TIME WITH WALLENBERG. THIS NEW PRISONER APPARENTLY SPOKE FLUENT GERMAN, AND CONVERSED WITH WALLENBERG IN THAT LANGUAGE. SOMETIME IN JULY, THIS STRANGER AND WALLENBERG ESCAPED FROM THE CAMP. FROM ACTIVITY AROUND THE CAMP, IT APPEARED THAT A SEARCH WAS CONDUCTED FOR THREE DAYS. SINCE NEITHER WALLENBERG NOR HIS COMPANION RETURNED TO THE CAMP, THE PRISONERS ASSUMED THE ESCAPE ATTEMPT MIGHT HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL.

6. IN 1991, EXACT DATE UNKNOWN, MRS PAVLENKO SAYS SHE VISITED THE SWEDISH EMBASSY IN MOSCOW WITH A LETTER DETAILING HER EXPERIENCES AND HER CONTACT WITH WALLENBERG. SHE CLAIMS SHE WAS TURNED AWAY WITHOUT MEETING ANYONE IN AN OFFICIAL CAPACITY AT THE EMBASSY, BUT SHE GAVE THE LETTER TO A MILITIAMAN IN FRONT OF THE EMBASSY TO GIVE TO A SWEDISH OFFICIAL. ABOUT TEN DAYS LATER, THE NEWSPAPER 'RABOCHOYE PRAVO' PRINTED HER LETTER ALONG WITH A DETAILED ARTICLE ABOUT WALLENBERG. THE PAPER CONCLUDED SHE WAS A FRAUD, BECAUSE, ACCORDING TO THE PAPER, SHE HAD NEVER BEEN IN CAMP IN THE 1940S, BUT RATHER HAD BEEN IN JAIL IN THE 1970S FOR EMBEZZLEMENT. HOWEVER, MRS PAVLENKO PROVIDED US WITH PHOTO COPIES OF HER PRISON DOCUMENTS, SUBSTANTIATING THE DATES AND REASON

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FOR HER IMPRISONMENT. SHE WILL ALSO PROVIDE US WITH A COPY OF THE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE. SHE SAID THE ARTICLE ALSO CONTAINED A DEATH CERTIFICATE SENT TO NKVD CHIEF BERIA FROM GEN ABAKUMOV STATING THAT WALLENBERG HAD DIED ON 17 JUL 47 OF A HEART ATTACK.

7. ACCORDING TO MRS PAVLENKO, THE CAMP WHERE SHE AND WALLENBERG WERE HELD HAS LONG SINCE BEEN DESTROYED. IN HER OPINION AS PART OF AN EFFORT TO ERADICATE TRACES OF WALLENBERG. SHE SAID SHE DOES NOT BELIEVE REPORTS IN THE PRESS THAT SOMEONE HAD SEEN WALLENBERG IN CAMPS IN SIBERIA. SHE BELIEVES THIS WAS ALSO PART OF A DECEPTION OPERATION. SHE BELIEVES HE WAS MOVED FROM LUBYANKA TO HER CAMP WHEN SWEDEN MADE OFFICIAL INQUIRIES ABOUT HIM. IN ORDER TO ERASE TRACES OF HIS EXISTENCE. HE WAS PUT IN THE DISPENSARY AS SOON AS HE ARRIVED, BECAUSE HE WAS SO ILL WITH PELLAGRA. SHE WAS IN THE DISPENSARY BECAUSE SHE WAS SUFFERING FROM NAUSEA AND INABILITY TO EAT FOLLOWING A LONG STRETCH IN SOLITARY CONFINEMENT ON BREAD AND WATER.

8. MRS PAVLENKO WAS ENROLLED IN DRAMA SCHOOL IN CAMP IN 1951 WHEN AN ORDER WAS ISSUED THAT EVERYONE IN THE CAMP HAD TO WORK ON CONSTRUCTION. SHE TRIED TO ESCAPE, BUT WAS APPREHENDED AND BEATEN. SHE WAS FINALLY RELEASED FROM CAMP IN JULY 1952.

9. COMMENT: AS DEPT AND EMBASSY STOCKHOLM ARE AWARE, THE OFFICIAL SOVIET VERSION OF WALLENBERG'S FATE WAS (AND STILL REMAINS AT LEAST AS FAR AS WE ARE AWARE) THAT HE DIED OF A 'HEART ATTACK' ON JULY 16, 1947. THE DATES THAT PAVLENKO CITED ARE NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THIS VERSION. BUT WE BELIEVE THAT THE FILES THE SWEDES HAVE BEEN GIVEN ACCESS TO SHOW THAT WALLENBERG WAS IN MOSCOW AT THE TIME OF HIS PURPORTED DEATH. THE POW/MIA TEAM HAS SCHEDULED ANOTHER INTERVIEW WITH PAVLENKO ON THURSDAY JULY 16. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY QUESTIONS OR GUIDANCE FROM ADDRESSEES BY COB JULY 15. COLLINS
END OF MESSAGE

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